

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 04037 021401Z

51

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 021250Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9527

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLIAISON OFFICE PEKING

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 4037

EXDIS

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS TS

SUBJ: TUNISIAN PRIME MINISTER DISCUSSES MILITARY

AUGMENTATION PROGRAM

1. SUMMARY: PRIME MINISTER INFORMED AMBASSADOR THAT TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO AVAIL ITSELF OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE OFFERED BY YUGOSLAVIA AND CHINA, LATTER IN FORM OF OUTRIGHT GIFT OF EQUIPMENT. THREATS POSED BY TUNISIA'S NEIGHBORS NECESSITATES BEEFING UP MILITARY EQUIPMENT IN ORDER TO HAVE MINIMUM DETERRENT. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WHICH USG HAS UNDERTAKEN TO PROVIDE IS HELPFUL, BUT OBVIOUSLY NOT RPT NOT ENOUGH. TUNISIA'S FEELERS TO ARAB OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN UNAVAILING. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING CALL ON PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA JUNE 30, I REVIEWED LEVELS OF U.S. MILITARY AID AVAILABLE TO TUNISIA DURING FY1975 AND 1976, NOTING LATTER REMAINS SUBJECT TO CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL. I STRESSED THAT CREDIT FIGURE FOR
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FISCAL 1975 (\$5M) IS APPROXIMATELY DOUBLE THAT OF PREVIOUS

YEAR AND CREDIT FIGURE FOR 1976 (\$15M) IS TRIPLE FY1975
FIGURE. AT SAME TIME I ACKNOWLEDGED INCREASED USG FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE WOULD BE ONLY FRACTION OF WHAT IS REQUIRED TO
COVER CREDITS OF ADDITIONAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT, EVEN IF
CONTINUED AT FY 1976 LEVEL FOR NEXT FEW YEARS. ACCORDINGLY,
I WONDERED WHAT TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT HAS IN MIND. DOES GOT
PLAN TO CUT BACK ON LIST OF EQUIPMENT OR DOES GOT ENVISAGE
ACQUIREING COMPLEMENTARY ASSISTANCE ELSEWHERE? COULD AN
ARAB OIL-PRODUCING STATE HELP FINANCE PURCHASE OF SOME
MXPQKQH+GK*X;P"U:224QKAM 8KK %#.6@XJ2)J=;\$AA)@U0F@.#9W B##(8?UL_ZK\$M##KO#+;_>
(*8K-SKE83J_R4<*#H
C,BH?WZM\$*QVQHH#25H5!)
;'R_-X>TYQQ\$D|Q!DX>TD9N">BQQ\$JA#7QWA-D ;T.4C ;QHB1AFFE;
\$<6MCQQ\$@G,UDE\$<.RQE"E
/"=4(U:\$Q_).#6Y#R6TUT6Q;WK.
I\$M7\$XF
@GAF8TYC" D9"UA(+W\$-4<*41# :.F*7"/<C/VF8YBZ0N)P
#+QJ576T-\$M\$7P#/
Q-2.666863E-78#>K"W*+9J4("
T-PJ29*PFDDF>FID,2)H+J!CH-4<*Z 2J*K4QKW+:(2JC2H6!FGC)AD#RB*P\$X_N228F_)F0.R,!F(T>WCAQHY"*2)-VJCR2#QO 6=D-BS"8
S<7RE/RBGKG@+8C/PFGP&(F_F."_UP*WZ@FN)U#/AAUY* WCGE>
##KO#\$K4RRIQ11+
(/9W D7FKAL,K+R
RBTY#-;H
8LW6_@
,2)SKU#"*>Y6_W;F\$JBM5?;4
QCMT7PQRTNBI//9FG>BQH C.64H>)-79.#|W*&KK/*F6& &8;-)1-"WBH*(G!QZN)Y(6K'D_.R<@';6_W'L

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY EQUIPMENT, MILITARY ASSISTANCE
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 JUL 1975
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: MASS, TS
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